History Curriculum Overview

YEAR	OUR LEARNING	WHAT CHILDREN LEARN	KEY HISTORICAL ENQUIRIES
EYFS	Past and present	Exploring family experiences, familiar routines, stories and how everyday life changes over time.	How was life different in the past? What has changed and what has stayed the same?
Year 1	Changes from the past to now; significant explorers	Comparing their own lives and toys with the past; exploring how West Midland Safari Park has changed over time; considering what makes an explorer significant.	How has life changed from the past to now? What makes an explorer significant?
Year 2	Transport in Bewdley; Great Fire of London; castle life and monarchy	Investigating changes in local transport, the impact of the Great Fire and the importance of castles to monarchs and the people they ruled.	How has transport changed in Bewdley over time? How did the Great Fire change London? Why was castle life important to the monarchy and the people they ruled?
Year 3	Stone Age to Iron Age; Anglo-Saxon and Scots settlements; Vikings; Victorians	Exploring changes from the Stone Age to the Iron Age; Anglo-Saxon and Scots settlements in Britain, where Anglo-Saxons lived, and Viking raiding and settlement; investigating Victorian changes and local history.	How did life change from the beginning of the Stone Age to the Iron Age? Who were the Anglo-Saxons and where did they live? Were Vikings vicious raiders or peaceful settlers? How did the Victorians change the way we live today?
Year 4	Romans in Britain; Second World War; clothing from 1066 to today	Investigating the Roman legacy, the causes and civilian impact of the Second World War, and the relationship between clothing and social class.	How did the Roman Empire impact Britain and what legacy did they leave? Why did WW2 begin and how did it impact British civilians? How has clothing reflected class throughout the centuries?
Year 5	Ancient Greece; Titanic; Ancient Maya	Examining Greek achievements, why the sinking of the Titanic was significant, and similarities and differences between Maya civilisation and England in the 8th–10th centuries.	What were the greatest achievements of Ancient Greece? Why was the sinking of the Titanic such a significant event in history? What similarities and differences are there between the Maya civilisation and England from the 8th to the 10th century?
Year 6	Jack Bishop and WWI; secret contributions to WWII; Ancient Egypt	Exploring the significance of Jack Bishop's story, the contributions of non-military personnel during WWII, and the achievements of Ancient Egypt.	Why is Jack Bishop's story significant in World War I? How important were non-military personnel in winning World War II in secret? What did the Ancient Egyptians achieve?

Historical Skills and Vocabulary

Throughout their time at Bewdley Primary School, children develop their historical understanding through chronology, enquiry, examining evidence, comparing periods, considering causes and consequences, and exploring different interpretations of the past. These skills are revisited across topics as children become increasingly confident historians.

Historical vocabulary is introduced and revisited throughout the curriculum, helping children describe periods, ask questions, explain changes and communicate their understanding with increasing precision.

BEWDLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL